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NEAR EAST - AFRICA

ROUNDUP

HTUOS

Indian press reaction to Secretary Dulles' visit

has been neutral or critical, commonly expressing the opinion that, if Dulles can understand and interpret Asian views, his visit will have served a useful purpose. No official reaction from India or Pakistan has yet been received.

IRAN Mullah Kashani and the extremist religious organi-

sation, Fedayan Islam, may be plotting a "reign of terror" in Iran. Local Moslem leaders are condemning Prime Minister Mossadeq for allying himself with the Tudeh party and have urged religious forces to rally in opposing him. Mossadeq is reportedly disturbed by widespread rumors that the Fedayan leader, Safavi, is planning the assassination of key government leaders, including Foreign Minister Fatemi. The prime minister has ordered special police protection for Fatemi and an investigation of Safavi.

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Mossadeq is well aware of the extensists' tactics and reportedly has feared for his own life for some time. The possibility of more violence may cause him to delay any consideration of legal status for the Tudeh and to adopt a less conciliatory policy toward the party.

The government, which at first vigorously investigated the murder of Police Chief Afshartus, has recently been
marking time on the month-old crime. (SECRET)

EGYPT Surface tensions have lessened slightly as Egypt

and Britain play a "waiting game" for the time being. Political and economic pressures inside Egypt, however, continue to build up making it difficult for the Nagib regime to pursue a policy of inaction. Late reports indicate that extremist elements of the Moslem Brotherhood and the powerful nationalist Wafd party, now officially banned, are working against the present government. (SECRET)

ARAB & Arab acceptance of the Western-sponsored Middle STATES

East Defense Organization was made less likely

Approved For Release 2001/03/04: CIA-RDP80R01443R000100200015-4 this past week by the Lebanese announcement that the Arab chiefs of staff would meet in Damascus on 25 June to implement the Arab Collective Security Pact. The Arabs are becoming increasingly insistent that the West support this pact as the device for regional defense.